

Romans 8:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Analysis

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again (Τίς ho katakrinōn? Christòs ho apothanόn, māllon dè egerthéis)—Katakrinō ("condemn") means pronounce guilty, sentence to punishment. Who can condemn? Christ Himself is the answer—but He died to remove condemnation! Apothanόn (aorist: "died") emphasizes the completed sacrifice. Māllon dè ("yea rather") adds climactic emphasis: egerthéis ("risen")—the resurrection vindicates Christ's sacrifice as accepted by God (Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:17).

Who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us (hos kaì estin en dexiâ toû theoû, hòs kaì entugchánei hypèr hēmōn)—Christ's present session "at God's right hand" (Psalm 110:1; Acts 2:33; Hebrews 1:3) indicates sovereignty and finished work. Yet He entugchánei ("makes intercession")—ongoing priestly advocacy (Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1). Christ who died, rose, and reigns now represents believers before the Father. How can we be condemned when our Judge is our Advocate?

Historical Context

Christ's heavenly intercession was crucial in Reformation debates over assurance. Roman Catholic theology emphasized Mary and saints as intercessors; Protestantism affirmed Christ as sole Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5). His intercession

isn't begging an unwilling Father but presenting His finished work as basis for the Father's blessing.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's death, resurrection, and heavenly intercession provide triple assurance against condemnation?
2. What is Christ interceding for—what does His priestly advocacy involve?
3. How does knowing Christ (your Judge) is your Advocate change how you approach God with sin and failure?

Interlinear Text

τίς ὁ κατακρίνων; Χριστὸς ὁ ἀποθανών μᾶλλον

Who G3588 **is he that condemneth** **It is Christ** G3588 **that died** **rather**
G5101 G2632 G5547 G599 G3123

δὲ καὶ ἐγερθείς ὃς καὶ ἐστιν ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ

yea **also** **that is risen again** **who** **also** **is** **at** **the right hand** G3588
G1161 G2532 G1453 G3739 G2532 G2076 G1722 G1188

θεοῦ ὃς καὶ ἐντυγχάνει ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν

of God **who** **also** **maketh intercession** **for** **us**
G2316 G3739 G2532 G1793 G5228 G2257

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 7:25 (References God): Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Romans 8:27 (References God): And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Hebrews 9:24 (References Christ): For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

1 Peter 3:22 (References God): Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Mark 16:19 (References God): So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Romans 8:1 (References Christ): There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Colossians 3:1 (Resurrection): If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Isaiah 53:12 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Psalms 109:31 (Parallel theme): For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul.

Revelation 1:18 (Parallel theme): I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.